

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OTRA, YUGOSLAVIA

SUBJECT: EXIMBANK DISCUSSIONS IN YUGOSLAVIA

1. EXIMBANK REPRESENTATIVES PLAN TO VISIT YUGOSLAVIA IN JUNE TO DISCUSS WITH YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT, BANKING AND BUSINESS OFFICIALS EXIMBANK ACTIVITIES IN YUGOSLAVIA AND ECONOMIC TRENDS IN THE COUNTRY. EXIMBANK GROUP WOULD INCLUDE RAYMOND J. ALBRIGHT, VICE PRESIDENT, MARVIN SOLOMON, COUNSEL, AND PROBABLY ONE LOAN OFFICER. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO CONFIRM WITH FINANCE MINISTRY AND NATIONAL BANK THAT FOLLOWING PROPOSED SCHEDULE WOULD BE FEASIBLE:

JUNE 7 - ATTENDANCE AT U.S.-YUGOSLAV ECONOMIC COUNCIL MEETINGS
IN BLED

JUNE 8 - MEETINGS IN LJUBLJANA OR ZAGREB (ALBRIGHT AND LOAN
OFFICER)

JUNE 9 - ATTENDANCE AT U.S.-YUGOSLAV ECONOMIC COUNCIL

JUNE 10 - 11 MEETINGS IN BELGRADE (ALBRIGHT AND LOAN OFFICER)

2. PARTICIPATION IN BLED MEETINGS MONDAY AFTERNOON IS PARTICULARLY
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DESIRABLE AS AGENDA INCLUDES FULL DISCUSSION ABOUT LATEST DEVELOPMENT

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IN YUGOSLAV FOREIGN TRADE AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE LAWS AND REGULATIONS, BANKING LAWS, FOREIGN CREDIT REGULATIONS AND COUNTER-TRADE OPERATIONS. EXIMBANK GROUP ALSO BELIEVES IMPORTANT TO PARTICIPATE IN BLED MEETINGS WEDNESDAY MORNING WHEN FINANCE SECRETARY CEMOVIC AND NATIONAL BANK GOVERNOR COLANOVIC PLAN TO DISCUSS YUGOSLAV ECONOMIC SITUATION AND TRADE FINANCING.

3. IN BELGRADE MEETINGS ALBRIGHT WOULD LIKE TO REVIEW GENERAL ECONOMIC, BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND EXTERNAL DEBT SITUATION IN SIMILAR MANNER TO DISCUSSIONS LAST YEAR, PRIMARILY WITH FINANCE MINISTRY AND NATIONAL BANK. WE UNDERSTAND IMF MISSION PLANS TO COMPLETE SIMILAR MISSION IN LATE MAY AND OBJECTIVE WOULD BE TO MEET WITH YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS FOLLOWING THOSE TALKS. EXIMBANK WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE RECEIVING UPDATED STATISTICAL DATA IN SAME FORM PROVIDED BY NATIONAL BANK LAST YEAR AND AS OFFERED THEN BY CEMOVIC AND COLANOVIC ON PERIODIC BASIS IN THE FUTURE. ALBRIGHT HOPES CEMOVIC AND COLANOVIC WOULD PERSONALLY HAVE SOME TIME AVAILABLE FOR HIS BELGRADE TALKS.

4. ALBRIGHT AND SOLOMON WOULD LIKE TO SCHEDULE MEETING WITH KRSKO NUCLEAR POWER FINANCIAL OFFICIALS, POSSIBLY MORNING OF JUNE 7 IN LJUBLJANA RETURNING TO BLED BY NOON.

5. PRIOR TO BLED MEETINGS SOLOMON WISHES TO SCHEDULE MEETINGS JUNE 3, 4, 5 IN SKOPJE AND MACEDONIA AREA AND WOULD LIKE TO SEE FENI MINING SITE. SOLOMON REQUESTS THAT EMBASSY CHECK OUR FOREGOING WITH STOPANSKA BANKA.

6. WE ASSUME PRESENCE AT BLED WILL GIVE EXIMBANK REPRESENTATIVES AMPLE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH POTENTIAL YUGOSLAV BORROWERS, SO THAT MEETING WITH COMPANIES ELSEWHERE WOULD BE LOWER PRIORITY TO DISCUSSIONS WITH GOVERNMENT AND BANK REPRESENTATIVES.

7. ALBRIGHT WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH LJULJANSKABANKA, BUT COULD DO SO IF CONVENIENT AT BLED. IN ZAGREB ALBRIGHT WOULD LIKE TO SEE PRIVREDNABANKA AND CREDITNABANKA OF UNITED BANK. ALBRIGHT WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE CONTACT WITH INA TO DISCUSS COMING FIVE-YEAR PLANS. IN VIEW OF DIFFICULTY IN VISITING SARAJEVO BECAUSE AIRPORT CLOSED, ALBRIGHT WOULD BE PLEASED TO MEET WITH PRIVREDNABANKA REPRESENTA-
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TIVES IN BLED OR BELGRADE.

8. EXIMBANK GROUP WOULD WELCOME ANY SUGGESTED MEETINGS FROM YUGOSLAV SIDE. HOWEVER, EMPHASIS OF BELGRADE VISIT IS TO DISCUSS TRENDS IN COUNTRY ECONOMY, BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND EXTERNAL DEBT MANAGEMENT.

9. TO FACILITATE RELATING THIS TRIP TO ANOTHER ITINERARY WOULD

APPRECIATE EARLIEST POSSIBLE REPLY AS TO YUGOSLAV REACTIONS TO
SCHEDULE. SISCO

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